

OFFICE OF ORIGIN: 000000

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FIELD NO.: WSB-1040

REPORT MADE AT: C 2	DATE: 4 Aug 47	PERIOD COVERED: Current	MADE BY: C 2
SUBJECT: Dr. Herbert ENGELSING (L) (L)			STATUS: Pending
REFERENCE: C 2			
SOURCE: C 2			

SYNOPSIS OR BRIEF REPORT:

Comment:

1. Dr. Herbert ENGELSING first came to the attention of this office through the report on Gunther WEISSENBOHN. ENGELSING was the man in Konstanz who had arranged WEISSENBOHN's trip to Switzerland. Now ENGELSING has applied for an immigration visa at the Consulate-General, Zurich. In this connection it has been possible for van KIRK to interview him regarding the SCHULZE-BOYSEN group.
2. ENGELSING is writing a complete report for the Swiss Bundesanwaltschaft (Federal Police) on his knowledge of the SCHULZE-BOYSEN group. It is fairly certain that the information has gone also to the French although ENGELSING would not definitely admit this. The Swiss are most anxious to find the connecting link between the SCHULZE-BOYSEN group and the RADO network.
3. ENGELSING states that there was no connection between the two groups, which may be an indication of how little he knows of the whole case. Furthermore, his story of Libertas SCHULZE-BOYSEN does not agree with previous descriptions of the lady or the role she played. His explanation of how he, himself, escaped implication in the SCHULZE-BOYSEN trial seems very weak if he was as intimate a member of the group as he would have one believe.
4. Comments will be appreciated as soon as possible because ENGELSING hopes to leave for the United States to join his family in September.
5. Attached is ENGELSING's story as he told it to van KIRK.

ENGELSING, HERBERT DR

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 NAZI WAR CRIMES DISCLOSURE ACT
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Dr. Herbert ENGELSING

1. Herbert ENGELSING was born 2 September 1904 near Cologne. He is a Catholic and lawyer by profession. When the Nazis took over the German courts, ENGELSING was a judge in Berlin. When it became impossible for anyone but a Nazi to preside in court, he gave up law and became a film director and producer in which field he had considerable success.

2. In 1938 ENGELSING married Ingeborg KOHLER who comes from a prominent Berlin legal family. She is half Jewish and, in order to evade the law in Germany which made it impossible for them to marry, ENGELSING married his wife in England. She and her children are now living at 115 Hillcrest Road, Berkeley 5, California with her parents, Dr. and Mrs. Arthur KOHLER. ENGELSING wants to join his family there.

3. ENGELSING was in Berlin from 1930 to 1944. In 1944, he went to Konstanz to make a film and remained there. His home address in Konstanz is Aeschernweg 8 and his business address is Wallgutstrasse 3. He comes to Switzerland at least once a week for business reasons and maintains an address in Kreuzlingen, Schutzenstrasse 8. In Zurich he frequently stays in the Pension Bergfrieden, Billeterstr 10.

4. ENGELSING stands well enough with the French to have been given the appointment, in 1945, of Chief Attorney in the French Military Courts and the German Courts. He works with Léon HILD, "Commissaire de Surêté" of the French Military Government, Konstanz. Source INCORPORATE claims that part of ENGELSING's success comes from playing the French against the Germans. During his interview ENGELSING justified the measures of the French occupation authorities and belittled the eternal German complaints about the French.

5. Concerning the SCHULZE-BOYSEN group ENGELSING told the following:

The SCHULZE-BOYSEN group started as a discussion group of assorted bohemian and revolutionary elements with no program and little talent for action. ENGELSING, himself, was largely responsible for bringing the group into contact with persons having access to information and for clarifying SCHULZE-BOYSEN's own line of action. SCHULZE-BOYSEN could get information only from the Luftwaffe in whose offices he was employed. ENGELSING, through his acquaintance with favorite actresses of top Nazis, was able to provide SCHULZE-BOYSEN with situation reports on future political or military actions to be taken by the German Government. This information was reportedly passed to the Allies, presumably the British, by way of Count DOUGLAS, Swedish Military Attaché in Berlin. Count DOUGLAS' wife was related to SCHULZE-BOYSENs. WEISSENBORN belonged to the inner circle of the SCHULZE-

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BOYSEN group. ENGELSING had become acquainted with WEISSENBORN through film scripts written by the latter. WEISSENBORN did not contribute much to the information of the group. However, it was WEISSENBORN who told ENGELSING that in his, WEISSENBORN's, opinion the Western Allies were not doing much to defeat Germany and that it would be more effective to give their information to the Russians. ENGELSING could not recall the technicalities of establishing this contact and carrying it out. He does remember that all information went to a woman doctor Elsa PAUL (Elfriede PAUL) who is still in Berlin. She in turn passed it to an unidentified radio operator. ENGELSING recalls that the radio operator had to keep sending on a number of different wavelengths until he received a signal that he was being picked up. ENGELSING, himself, makes no claim to technical knowledge along this line.

6. ENGELSING states with certainty that the SCHULZE-BOYSEN group had no connection with the RADO group in Switzerland. As proof of this he asserts that the text used for coding by the German group was a certain edition of "Til Eulenspiegel" and the RADO group used another book, the title of which he could not recall. (Apparently in spite of his lack of technical knowledge ENGELSING knew something about the codes used).

7. The SCHULZE-BOYSEN group were tracked down by the location of their transmitter and by a penetration effected by the Gestapo with Libertas SCHULZE-BOYSEN née HAAS-HEYE as the target. LIBERTAS was a beautiful girl and somewhat promiscuous. At the behest of the group who insisted that revolutionaries could not raise children and against her own will, she had to have an abortion which was performed by Dr. Elsa PAUL. WEISSENBORN, in particular, was vehement on this subject. The result was that LIBERTAS turned against the group spiritually and was an easy prey, psychologically, for the Gestapo. A handsome Gestapo member succeeded in making LIBERTAS fall in love with him and through her he gradually got the names of the SCHULZE-BOYSEN group.

8. When the group was brought to trial, WEISSENBORN received only a four year sentence because there was no evidence of activity on his part except that LIBERTAS had mentioned his name. ENGELSING WAS NEVER INVOLVED. He explains this by the fact that he is a Catholic and had been the only one opposed to the abortion. He fully expected to be called in by the Gestapo. Finally, out of desperation, he went to see PANZINGER (perhaps PANWITZ is meant) to inquire whether or not there was any record against him, but the Gestapo were not interested in him.

9. Regarding WEISSENBORN, ENGELSING reports that he saw him for the first time since the SCHULZE-BOYSEN trial in Konstanz recently. WEISSENBORN came to Konstanz in connection with the staging of his play "Babel". ENGELSING was so moved by WEISSENBORN's difficult situation and lack of means that he arranged that WEISSENBORN be brought into Switzerland for one day. He made the arrangements on the Swiss side with Kurt HIRSCHFELD of the Zürich Schauspielhaus who got the permission

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by telling the Zurich Cantonal Police that WEISSENBERG was needed for discussion on the staging of one of his, WEISSENBERG's plays. When one of ENGELSING's contacts in the Swiss Federal Police heard of WEISSENBERG's visit, he scolded ENGELSING for bringing a Communist into Switzerland. ENGELSING states that WEISSENBERG is definitely not a Communist. WEISSENBERG lives in the British Sector of Berlin and has taken no advantage of the excellent offers made by the Russians to artists who will work in the theaters in the Russian Zone.

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